

Greetings from Kuwait. I would like to take this opportunity to give you an update on our activities since our arrival here in Kuwait. The Fires Brigade arrived safely, we're doing well, and we are completing all of the requirements needed in order to move forward to Iraq. I am very proud of all that the Fires Brigade Soldiers have accomplished in such a short amount of time. Thanks to the tremendous efforts of the numerous weapons qualification ranges, port download operations, and convoy movements throughout the area, all without accident or injury. We will continue to encourage safety in everything we do to ensure that we continue this trend.

Our next priority will be our movement into Iraq. This will begin soon and will require a great amount of focus and attention to detail. I want you to know that we are prepared, trained, and ready for any task. Command Sergeant Major Canuela and I are confident in the abilities of our Soldiers. They have great leaders who care for their well-being and will always do the right thing. The weather in Kuwait is about the same as Fort Hood this time of year. The living conditions here are good, and they will significantly improve once we arrive in Iraq.

Thank you for your support of our Fires Brigade Soldiers. Without family members and loved ones, our Soldiers could not do what they do. I encourage you to continue supporting our great Soldiers as you have in the past and I know you will during our deployment. Our Soldiers are making History with every day that passes. They are truly great Americans.